



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture - Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service
100 Centennial Mall North Suite 298 - Lincoln, Nebraska 68508 - Phone: (402) 437-5541

Contact: William G. Hamlin (402) 437-5541

E-mail: nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

Web: www.usda.gov/nass/

NEBRASKA HOG INVENTORY UNCHANGED

LINCOLN, Neb., December 30, 2002--Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2002, was 2.90 million head, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. This was unchanged from both December 2001 and September 1, 2002. Breeding inventory, at 365,000 head, was down 1 percent from a year ago but 1 percent above last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2,535,000 head, was up fractionally from last year but down slightly from last quarter.

The September-November 2002 Nebraska pig crop, at 1.54 million head, was 7 percent more than a year earlier and 17 percent above 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 170,000 head, 3 percent above last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to have 170,000 sows farrow during the December 2002-February 2003 quarter, unchanged from the actual farrowings during the same period last year but 21 percent above two years ago. Intended farrowings for March-May 2003, at 175,000 sows, are unchanged from 2002 but up 9 percent from 2001.

The number of operations with hogs in Nebraska totaled 2,900 during 2002, down 15 percent from last year and 27 percent below two years ago. A decade ago there were 12,000 operations with hogs in Nebraska.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY DOWN 1 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2002, was 58.9 million head. This was 1 percent below December 1, 2001, and 2 percent below September 1, 2002. Breeding inventory, at 6.01 million head, was down 3 percent from December 1, 2001, and down 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 52.9 million head, was 1 percent below last year and 2 percent below last quarter.

The September-November 2002 U.S. pig crop, at 24.9 million head, was 2 percent less than 2001, and 1 percent less than 2000. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.82 million head, 2 percent below last year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.81 million sows farrow during the December 2002-February 2003 quarter, 1 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 2002, and 2 percent above 2001. Intended farrowings for March-May 2003, at 2.85 million sows, are 3 percent below the same period in 2002, and 1 percent below 2001.

The number of operations with hogs in the U.S. totaled 75,350 during 2002, down 7 percent from last year and 13 percent below 2000. A decade ago there were 240,150 operations with hogs in the U.S.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2002/hgpg1202.pdf>